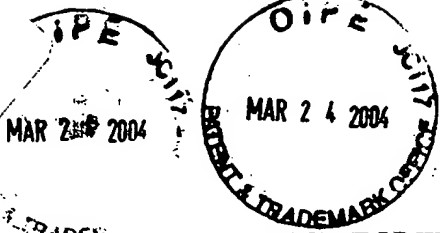


# 3731

Attorney's Docket No.: 00167-404001 / 02-31-0340



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : MARK HANS EMANUEL      Art Unit : 3731  
Serial No. : 09/486,977      Examiner : V. Bui  
Filed : March 6, 2000      Confirmation No.: 6804  
Title : SURGICAL ENDOSCOPIC CUTTING DEVICE AND METHOD FOR ITS USE

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT IN REPLY TO ACTION OF DECEMBER 22, 2003

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

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MAR 26 2004  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

March 22, 2004  
Date of Deposit

Denise A. Rose  
Signature

Denise A. Rose  
Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate